

## **Council President Loretta C. Scott Offers Comments Regarding Police Accountability Board**

The City Council has worked with stakeholders to develop legislation within the confines of state law that would create a Police Accountability Board. The Rochester City Council released a working draft of an ordinance to: the Police Accountability Board Alliance; Mike Mazzeo, the Rochester Locust Club President; and Frank Liberti, the CEO of the Center for Dispute Settlement earlier this month.

The Council provided these groups the working draft in good faith; we wanted to allow everyone an additional opportunity to provide feedback, discuss potential changes, and express concerns. After releasing the working draft to the parties the Council met as a group to review the working document and make any additional changes prior to submitting the legislation.

Council plans to submit this legislation in the October cycle with the intention of holding this legislation in Committee for a period of time to allow for public hearings, public comment and review. The legislation will be available to the public on the City's website and in the City Council Office.

The entire community needs to be involved in the creation of a Police Accountability Board, and having a piece of legislation to review is a starting point for discussion. The Council will hold multiple forums that will allow members of the community to provide input and suggest changes; I expect that there will be numerous amendments to the legislation as a result of the feedback that we receive from the community.

I understand that there are concerns being raised about the working draft that was distributed, and I want to reiterate to the Police Accountability Board Alliance, the Locust Club, the media and the community as a whole, this is not the final version. It is a place to start – not a place to end. It is the sincere hope of the entire Council that the final legislation that we vote on will establish a new, effective and transparent Police Accountability Board for this community.

Attached is a draft of the legislation that will be submitted for the October Council Cycle.